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**Director's Report**  
**By: Adam Ringia**



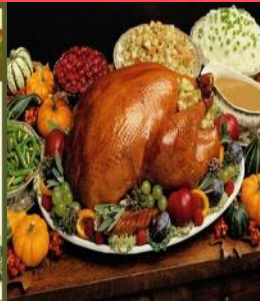
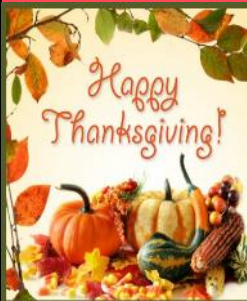
Happy Holidays from ENRD

The Holiday season is here! The weather is getting cooler, and wood permits are starting to fly out the door here at ENRD. We have continued to get rain (and wind and hail, and even the occasional funnel cloud!); it should be an interesting winter. Hunting season is in full swing, with reports of some very large elk being taken this year... Good luck to all of you hunters out there! Be safe and prepared. ENRD has been busy this fall, we are working to provide some wood to each of the villages for the winter, trying to keep hunting organized, continuing to monitor water and air quality, ensuring that the Pueblo is well represented both culturally and technically in water rights negotiations, project reviews, and at meeting with federal and state agencies on issues that may impact Laguna.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

***Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas!***

***From: The Environmental & Natural Resources Departments***



***Realty Program***

The Pueblo of Laguna is in the process of developing a Realty Program, which will be part of the Environmental and Natural Resources Department – this program will supervise things like leasing, processing land acquisitions and potential acquisitions, working on service line agreements and rights of ways, and similar activities. The Realty program will also manage some of the environmental compliance surveys for Pueblo activities. We anticipate starting the hiring process soon.

***Hunting Reminder***

**Hunting on Laguna is a privilege not a right, and poaching is stealing future wildlife from your children. Please report any poaching you witness to the Pueblo Police Department at 552-6685.**

***Staff Changes***

Jason Thomas our former Natural Resources Manager and Colleen (Amy Garcia) our former Environmental Specialist have both moved on to seek other opportunities. We will be posting these job openings soon. We appreciate the great services that both individuals provided during their time with the Pueblo.

**Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Report****By: Gaylord Siow****THPO 4th Quarter 2015**

In April 2014 a team of individuals from the Pueblo made up traditional leaders and Councilman Virgil Siow traveled to Brooklyn to identify what the collection included.

The team identified six Katsina friends that belonged to the Pueblo along with other artifacts such as prayer sticks, dolls and objects used by the Katsina.

The THPO had been in contact with Dr. Susan Zeller at the direction of Governor Siow to see how soon we would be able to bring home the items mentioned above.

The dates that we drilled down for the repatriation are August 16 & 17, 2015.

Governor Siow identified six individuals, from tribal leadership, that made the trek to recover the items and bring them home. Those individuals were Governor Virgil Siow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gov. Paul Pino, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fiscale Gaylord Siow, Councilman Kenneth Tiller, Councilman Alvin Martin & Councilman Loren Maria.

The team traveled to Brooklyn on Sunday August 16, 2015 and stayed overnight. The Museum Staff accommodated the team by packing by 8:00 AM EST on July 17, 2015. Once all items are packed the team physically took the friends back to the airport and brought them back to Laguna on that same day. Once the team arrived back at the main village kiva the friends were turned over to our kiva leaders.

On August 17 – 20, 2015 the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual National Annual Tribal Historic Preservation Officers conference was held at the Route 66 Casino and Hotel. This comes as a result of Governor Siow and the THPO, Gaylord Siow attending the Power of Preservation conference that was held earlier in the year in West Virginia and working with Bambi Kraus, Director of NATHPO. The conference opened with a prayer by Conrad Lucero, THPO advisory board chairman and opening remarks and welcome by Governor Siow officially opened the conference.

This was a very well attended and successful conference as THPO's from all over the country were in attendance. There was a Laguna dance group that provided the Laguna Eagle dance on Wednesday evening and was much appreciated. All members of the THPO advisory board took part in the conference presentations and gained valuable knowledge in preservation concepts that we will implement into the future. A big thank you to the members Roland Johnson, Loren Arkie, Paul Pino Rick Smith, Robert Mooney, Victor Sarracino, Conrad Lucero and Governor Siow for attending. Also in attendance was 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Governor David Martinez.

Special thank you to LDC Staff for being a great host as many of the attendees expressed gratitude for such a great venue and the professionalism by casino and hotel staff.

In September I traveled to Cortez and Durango for the annual meeting with Colorado BLM and USFS on upcoming initiatives with these two agencies. The BLM has ongoing projects that are being surveyed now for cultural resources which may be affected by the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline project to transport CO2 gas across identified land known to have many cultural resources across this landscape. Tribes will be contacted to go on a site visit to help identify areas to avoid and protect in 2016. This area is known as the valley of the ancients and must be preserved and protected. The meeting was well attended by other tribes from NM Pueblos as well as Navajo and Ute tribes. This meeting took place in Dolores, Colorado at the Anasazi Heritage Center and Museum over the course of two days.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> day was the annual meeting with the USFS held in Durango, Colorado on projects related to USFS projects in the Durango area. Tribal consultation is held in very high regard in making sure that tribes are notified and at the table for discussions per Section 106 of the NHPA as new initiatives are being considered. These two agencies are in the process of developing Memorandums of Understanding with the Pueblos and tribes that they will consult with on a go forward progression plan. The dates of the annual meeting were September 15 – 18, 2015. Cont. p.3

**THPO Report cont.**

In local area projects the THPO has been involved in are two simultaneous projects in the Rio Puerco area. One is the water treatment facility and water well and delivery project to Route 66 Casino and Hotel. There are several contractors on site that are building out the water delivery system and treatment facility. Also on site is PNM who is building out the necessary electrical system for this new endeavor. LDC has contracted a Project Manager who is overseeing the project and has made good faith communication with the THPO as issues arise regarding cultural issues. One area that was identified in the cultural resource survey was going to be impacted and as a result of consultation a decision was made to avoid and protect the site.

The other project is the new RV Park which will be starting Phase 1 of a 3 Phase project very soon. The THPO was contacted by Associate Attorney for LDC Patrick Hart. Mr. Hart wanted to point out an area identified by SWCA an environmental consultant used for cultural resource inventories prior to construction on approved projects. SWCA had identified a large cultural site south of the existing Route 66 Casino boundary. SWCA recommended that the site be protected and preserved and that Phase II of the RV Park project be re-located to the west. In a field meeting with Mr. Hart the THPO made the COO and ENRD director aware of the site and concurred with SWCA that the site be mitigated and protected as advised by SWCA. LDC will have to request additional land for Phase two of the RV Park and must get the new area cleared for cultural resources survey prior to any disturbance of the land.

Another area that THPO has been involved in is the Gas Company of New Mexico 15 mile proposed loop line from just south of highway 6 to the Rio Puerco area. Field meetings have been held with POL Staff and GCONM regarding a proposed re-alignment of the new line being constructed down a steep basalt escarpment just north of highway 6. GCONM will consider a re-route proposed to them by the Laguna team to see if it is feasible and not be cost prohibitive. SWCA has been contracted to perform a Class III cultural resource survey for the entire length of the project and have identified sites that have not been previously recorded. SWCA did find a unique artifact which they termed a stone pipe. THPO does have the artifact in the office.

Another area of success was the receipt of grant funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the MICA Group. This funding will be used to support the education priority committee in its endeavor to create a Laguna language institute for all members of the pueblo to begin to learn how to speak the Laguna language.

Other areas of assigned duties include participation in the Pueblo's water rights case, Mount Taylor Mine re-opening initiative, Valles Calderas Preserve, and grant award for language revitalization project.

It has been a very busy 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter and looks to be just as busy in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of this year. I would like wish you all a very blessed holiday season as we move into this joyous time of year. May the creator bless you and your loved ones with good health, happiness and much love. Until next time stay warm and eat lots of pinon.

**Hazardous Fuel Reduction Crew News**

**By: Harold Analla, Crew Leader**



The Hazardous Fuel Reduction crew consists of five crew members hired to remove trees from forest land where overgrowth and fire threaten valuable forest land. Two locations have been established for the removal trees, the project is known as the "Thinning Project". One of the areas is located south of Casa Blanca on Highway 23, this area consists of three plots. Juniper trees will be removed and will allow the new growth of vegetation in the area, and will also allow more freedom for the wildlife in the area. Reseeding has already taken place. The slash has been placed in the nearby river bed for erosion control.

The second "Thinning Project" is located within the Silver Dollar Ranch. This project consists of removing dead and unhealthy Pinon, Pine and Oak trees in order to allow new trees and vegetation to grow.



**Natural Resource Report****by: Raymond Lucero****Southern Ute Hunt**

Greetings everyone,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying your hunting season. As some of you may know, there was a draw for six (6) Mule Deer tags, which were offered this year by the Southern Ute Tribe. From each village one individual was drawn and allowed to hunt in Southern Ute. The draw results for each village is as follows:

**Drawn Hunters**

Richard Luarkie, Casa Blanca/Paraje  
 Shaun Riley, Village of Laguna  
 Barry Sarracino, Village of Paguate  
 Sabin Chavez, Village of Mesita  
 Filbert Antonio, Village of Encinal  
 Myron Sarracino, Village of Seama

**Tribal Leaders**

Jonathan Day, Village of Mesita  
 Theodore Leon, Village of Laguna  
 Donald Siow, Village of Laguna  
 Vaugh Sarracino, Village of Mesita

These individuals had the opportunity to meet with the Governor of Southern Ute Tribe as well as the council staff on Monday, November 9, 2015.

After meeting with the governor and council the hunting group also met with the Southern Ute's Wildlife Division to discuss the rules and regulations for their hunt. Upon completion of the meeting the hunters were more than eager to fill out there tags and set out on the Southern Ute Reservation to hunt.

**ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES****By: Greg Jojola, Environmental Manager**

***Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and also a special thanks to our veterans on their special day as well!***

We've come to a close on another successful grant year here at the Environmental Program. Our grants run on the governmental fiscal year so our General Assistance Grant (GAP), Water, and Air closed at the end of September. NALEMP is two year grant and will continue through 2016.

The water program completed all of our sampling rounds successfully. We did have quite a "wet" spring/summer and some sites were not accessible. No major issues to report regarding our surface waters and springs throughout the reservations. Staff is looking into the possibility of applying for an EPA 319 grant that would allow us to do some stream or spring restoration project. This grant application is due in the late winter 2016.

Our EPA Air project was extended through 2016 and we have some interesting projects to complete. One being community education on indoor air quality issues throughout the reservation. We'll be polling the community and doing some community outreach activities during the year.

We're also moving towards cleaning up the old bus barn here at the old LA high school campus. Underground fuel tanks from way back have caused an undetermined amount of contamination in the area. Grants Cibola County School District is aware of the problem and has been working closely with our office and tribal officials to start the clean-up process. Our legal office is working on a four-way MOU which includes the NMED, GCCSD, POL and EPA. This is the first step towards the start of the clean-up and remediation process.

***Our mission statement: To monitor and protect the environmental quality of Pueblo air, land, and water for the benefit of Pueblo member health and the future generations; while building capacity and providing comprehensive environmental services to the Pueblo.***



**Air Quality Report****By: Vince Rodriguez, Air Quality Technician****Natural Burning vs. Toxic Burning**

Many folks have stocked up on wood for the upcoming fall and winter seasons. More modern homes here in the Pueblo have gas or electric stoves for heating and cooking, and some homes may have both. The smell of a fireplace or wood stove burning is very cozy.

All natural wood species give off natural carbon. In extreme situations or dire need to burn, have you ever thought of burning a railroad tie? The next time you stoke that fire, please keep these hazards in mind before you burn a railroad tie.

Railroad ties are treated with a chemical called creosote which is distilled from tars (fossil fuels). In 2007, the EPA classified creosote as a carcinogen which can cause cancer. Studies have shown that prolong handling of treated RR ties can cause blistering or peeling if you have sensitive skin. If you do use RR ties for landscaping, gardening or farming, wear long sleeves, pants and gloves for protection.



Railroad ties should never be burned in fire places or outdoors near homes and communities. EPA cautions against such burning old RR ties. Toxins from the vapors can be released by the heat and can be harmful to your lungs. If you cut RR ties with a chainsaw or handsaw, avoid inhaling sawdust. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon or (PAHs) for short is one of 300 chemicals in creosote and it is also contained in cigarette smoke, a known carcinogen. So folks, be aware of how you use RR ties, always keep safety in mind. PLEASE DO NOT BURN THEM!

**Water Quality Report****By: Deborah Anyaibe, Water Quality Specialist****Water Quality**

The water quality team has been very busy making sure that the communities' resources are taken care of properly. Recently this meant assessing what could be done to alleviate the pressure on the sewage lagoons East of Paguete. There were three choices for how to get the lagoons down to an acceptable level. The following were the considered options:

1. Pump and transport wastewater via a tanker truck from Paguete East Lagoons to the Twin Lake Lagoons (7 weeks, ~78k)
2. Pump and transport wastewater via high capacity rental pump and 7920-ft of lay flat hose to the Twin Lakes Lagoons ( 14 days (24 hrs./day), \$27,043.88)
3. Discharge and land apply the waste water immediately east of Paguete East Lagoon system. The effluent would be disinfected with calcium hypochlorite and sample bi-weekly for total suspended solids, Nitrate, and Fecal Coliform (3 weeks, ~\$5k)

The third option is the one that was chosen and approved by Council. This solution was also presented at the Paguete Village meeting on October 22, 2015 by Adam Ringia Director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Department. It was also stipulated that a monitoring well be put in to monitor Chlorine, Phosphorous, Nitrate and Fecal Coliform levels of the effluent. The effluent release has already begun and the well will be drilled by November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**General Assistance Program Report****By: Loren Arkie****Junk Vehicle Hazards and Oil Spills**

Many people hold on to vehicles in their yards because of sentimental value or they might consider them long term projects. Do you ever stop to wonder if those vehicles may be leaking fluids such as oil, antifreeze, or battery acid? Another hazard is children love to climb on cars and play inside them, there may be snakes hiding out or other potential health hazards lurking among those unused vehicles.

Used oil from “do it yourself oil changes” can also pile up in our yards. Proper and timely disposal is critical. If you have oil you need to get rid of please take it over to the Pueblo of Laguna Transfer Station. Two main procedures when disposing oil: 1) place oil in spill proof container; 2) bag all filters. If there have been any spills use kitty litter or some sort of absorbent to clean it up and bag it. This will be same the for oil on soil spills.

The Pueblo adopted the new Solid Waste Code and Regulations on January 27, 2009. Contained within the Solid Waste Code and Regulations are regulations and definitions of Hazardous Waste Generation, which basically regulates and defines the removal of petroleum products or bi-products which may have impacts to ground water and human health and safety. These generators are mainly junk vehicles and stored used oil. There are also violations and penalties that could potentially be imposed on homeowners.

Many people don't know how to get rid of these unwanted vehicles. The Pueblo's Environmental Program has a process for getting unwanted vehicles off your property. There are two items you may need to have: 1) keys for mobility purposes; 2) the title, if available. For more additional information contact Loren Arkie at our POL Environmental Office at 505-552-5049.



**FREE PICK-UP**



Becomes target  
for vandalism

Soil Contamination

Causes long-term health  
effects

Attract children, rodents  
& snakes

Repercussions of hav-  
ing a junk vehicle

**SCHEDULE YOUR  
APPOINTMENT**



**Oh Yes! IT'S  
FREE**



***POL Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program News***  
***By: Sabin Chavez***



Greetings!

The Pueblo of Laguna NALEMP program has completed reviewing “draft” reports for three sites being addressed under this current cooperative agreement. The following are summaries from reports:

Eidson Ranch

Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) Investigation fieldwork was conducted from July to August 2015, covering 200-acres within the Eidson Ranch Boundary. Items identified were four 2.75 inch rocket warheads were found on the ground surface, all were safely relocated to an identified area for explosive venting (picture below). Once vented, all four items were classified as Material Documented As Safe (MDAS), Munitions Debris (MD) found on-site consisted of 2.75 practice rockets (fins, and spent rocket motors). Overall, no MEC or Material Documented as an Explosive Hazard (MDEH) were found during the investigation field work.

JATO Site #2

Surface Clearance and Removal Action at site was conducted July and August 2015, majority of MD recovered during 200-acre surface clearance operation consisted of Range Related Debris (RRD) & M38A2 practice bomb debris. Ten JATO motors were located and consolidated during the removal action phase of work. These items were recognized as ordnance and required to be demilitarized in order to classify as MDAS. Explosive venting (picture below) was conducted on August 24, 2015 to effect the demilitarization, where the items were classified as MDAS.

KAFB PBR 14, Target S-1

Site Investigation activities were conducted on 10-acres, during June and August 2015. Activities included archeological survey, non-intrusive instrument-assisted visual survey and soil sampling. Results of the archeological survey identified three sites, recommending avoidance during the project activities. Four M38A2 practice bomb components were located, likely from an individual munition. Analytical results from the soil sampling indicated no concentrations of MC were detected above screening criteria. Upon completion of field work from all three sites the MDAS, MD and RRD collected were inspected/certified and transported to a qualified recycling facility. A total of 1,120 lbs. of MDAS collected from all three sites.



JATO Motors & Rocket Warheads



Preparing for explosive venting



Venting of items



Post-venting of items

Rocket Warheads vented



JATO Motor vented



## Rangeland Program News

By: Richard Bonine, Jr. Rangeland Manager



In the 1992 U.S. Presidential campaign, Bill Clinton's staff (specifically James Carville) kept the candidate and the campaign organization focused with "it's the economy, stupid" printed on Post-it notes stuck to every flat surface. Who knows how popular this particular *snowclone* (a popular cliché that can be adapted to many different uses) would have remained had the election outcome been different, but it has stuck around and been adapted to many situations as a reminder about the need to stay focused on what is really important.

Although many of the details of land management may have changed in the last 120+ years, the idea that capital investments, frequently supplemented by conservation program funds, can replace labor-intensive management is still appealing. We spend a lot of money building fences, drilling wells and laying pipeline as a basis for improving grazing land management. These "facilitating" practices are intended to provide the infrastructure that allows managers to manage.

Unfortunately, the emphasis on accountability in government programs has shifted the allocation of scarce expertise and creativity toward making sure that construction practices meet specifications and away from following up to insure that management objectives are met. In an institutional sense, engineering projects, while expensive, are administratively tidy and accounting is straightforward. Management, on the other hand, is hard to quantify and, more importantly, you have to do it EVERY year. This recurring commitment is exceptionally difficult to account for in an unstable funding environment.

So while it is easy to focus on fence, watering infrastructure, and the like, actual management also need to occur. It's easy to think that because you put in that new drinker or a couple miles of new fence that you are practicing "management" in reality, you are just installing infrastructure. Management of the range is really about a having a focus on practices that grow grass. Livestock are simply high dollar mowing machines that can convert grass into protein.

**Range management is the art and science of maintaining the natural resources while also obtaining sustainable animal production on native grasslands.**

With that in mind, here are a couple of range management Post-It notes for your refrigerator.



There are four basic principles of range management:

- \* Balance the number head of animals with available forage supply.
- \* Obtain a uniform distribution of animals over the range. Move your cows often.
- \* Alternate periods of grazing and rest to maintain the vegetation.
- \* Use the kind of livestock most suited to the forage supply and management objectives.



There are three natural laws for range ecology:

- \* If we keep down the shoot, we kill the root. Green leaves make the food that sustains plant roots. Don't let the livestock come back to the same plant for "seconds".
- \* Native grass stands abhor a vacuum (empty space between plants). If grazing removes taller, more productive grasses, forbs, and shrubs, unpalatable plants and low-growing grass will fill the empty spaces.
- \* Everything is limited by something all of the time. The principle limiting factor in rangelands is water. More water is stored in soil covered with vegetation than in bare soil. Moisture conservation is critical on rangeland.



**Rangeland Crew News****By: Delbert Siow****USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Services**

It is time to start thinking of applying for the 2016 (EQIP) Environmental Quality Incentive Program and (CSP) Conservation Stewardship Program. These programs are available for Tribal and private agricultural lands. EQIP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers through contracts up to a maximum term of ten years in length. CSP is also a voluntary conservation program that encourages producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by: undertaking additional conservation activities; and improving, maintaining and managing existing conservation activities. For more information on NRCS/CSP programs you can contact Pearl Armijo, District Conservationist in Los Lunas, NM at (505) - 865- 4643. Also you can apply for the 2015 LFP program through the Farm Service Agency. You can contact Lisa Garay, County Executive Director at the Los Lunas, NM office for more information at (505) -865-4641.

**By: Billy Delores**

The month of September and October were busy months for the rangeland crew. Working on windmills and solar mills, also measuring well depths and taking water levels on windmill wells for future solar mill installations. Also road grading on L-48 dirt road from Montano range unit to Bar PL range unit to take range surveys on range management units and to make the roads passable for hunters. Good luck to all you hunters.

The Rangeland crew would like to wish you all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

**By: Nevin Garcia, Sr.**

The ENRD Rangeland Department has been adding more vegetation plots to some of the Range Management Units. These vegetation plots would allow us to collect more data and monitoring of both the grasses and forbs. The collection of vegetation data will also help us to determine the rangeland health. Landscape appearance and browse utilization is also a key factor for Rangeland health.

**Planning Program Report by: Sharon Hausam**

In the last issue of On the Wind, the Planning Program highlighted the village comprehensive plans. Each plan includes a chapter on Natural Resources and Environment, with goals, strategies, and actions that relate to water, irrigation, farming, hunting, traditional plant use, illegal dumping, hazardous materials, renewable energy, and protection of special places.

The Planning Program has also been working on two other major projects to help support the community's relationship with the natural world. As part of the process to develop the comprehensive plans, the Planning Program met with community members and held village-wide planning meetings. Many community members talked about the need to get kids outside, rather than sitting in front of a screen. They commented that when they were young, they had played outside all day, until it was time to eat dinner. Some people call this decreased time outside and its negative impacts on well-being "Nature Deficit Disorder."

The Planning Program has since developed two plans that will help create more spaces for community outdoor activity, the "Park, Playground, and Recreational Facilities Master Plan" and the "Bike and Pedestrian Route Plan." Both plans contain conceptual designs and long lists of projects, which have to be prioritized to move forward. The next step for the top-priority projects is to develop engineering designs. Designs for one park/playground for each village are underway, and designs for top-priority bike and pedestrian routes are complete.

Once engineering designs are complete, the projects still need to be funded for construction. Villages can request funding for parks/playgrounds and local recreational trails or walking routes from the Pueblo's debt service fund through the Pueblo's Capital Improvement Plan (which will be discussed in a future On the Wind article). The Planning Program has been seeking outside funding for some of the bike and pedestrian trails, when the funding source is a good fit for the project. The Pueblo has been awarded Transportation Alternatives Program, Recreational Trails Program, and, most recently a federal TIGER grant. The TIGER grant is one of only 39 grants in the United States for this cycle, approved by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Sharon Hausam, Planning Program Manager, shausam@lagunapueblo-nsn.gov, 552-1204. And check future issues of On the Wind for more on ENRD coordination with the Planning Program!

**Sharon Hausam**

**Environmental and Natural Resources  
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**NATURAL RESOURCES  
PROGRAM**

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NR Technician I  
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Harold Analla, Quentin Delores,  
Francis Trujillo, Sr. and Alex  
Romero, Jr.  
Thinning Crew



A courtesy reminder of the importance of sorting your recyclables from your everyday household trash before placing in the recycling bins. Your help and effort is greatly appreciated!